

SONG OF THE SOIL.

BY J. R. BAYLEY.

I start the bulb of the beautiful flower,
And feed the bloom of the wild wood bower;
I rear the blade of the tender herbs;
And the trunk of the stalwart oak I curb:
I force the sap of the mountain pine,
And curb the tendrils of the vine;
I robe the forest, and clothe the plain
With the ripen of fruit and richest of grain.

The cheek of the peasant I flush with health;
And yield the sun's yeoman wealth;
I give the spirit of commerce wings,
And prop the tottering thrones of gold;
The gorgeous palace and the humble cot
Owe every atom to me they've got;—
And the prince at his banquet, and him at his board,
Alike must depend on the fare I afford.

Man may boast of his creature might—
His talent in peace, and his prowess in fight;
And lord it over beast and bird,
By the charm of his touch and the spell of his word;
But I am the sole and mighty source
Whence flows the tide of his boasted force—
Whatever his right and whoever he be,
His pomp and dominion must come from me!

I am the giver of all that's good,
And have been since the world has stood;
Where's the wealth on ocean or beauty on land,
But sprung from the warmth of my fostering hand?
Or where the object fair and free,
That claims a being, but's traced to me?
Cherish! then cherish, ye sons of soil,
The wonderful might of the fruitful soil!

POTATOES AND TURNIPS.

It is well known to every farmer who has read much, that the turnip culture in England has more than trebled her stock of cattle and sheep, and of course enhanced her riches in that proportion. The turnips here alluded to, are what we call the flat turnip. The climate of England, though she is farther north than we are, is so softened by the sea breezes, that it is not necessary to pull or gather the turnips, but they turn the cattle or sheep upon them, in the winter and let them help themselves.— Perhaps this might be done on some of our islands on the coast where the snow does not lay long. But it cannot be done on the main land. Now we have no doubt that, by cultivating potatoes and feeding them to cattle and sheep during winters, we could realize as much profit on them as the English do on their turnips. It is true that the cost of seed and culture is more than that necessary for the turnip crop; but then on the other hand, the great nutrient contained in the potatoe, and the less quantity as compared with the turnips, that it will be necessary to use, will make a fair balance in this respect.

In order to carry the plan out thoroughly and systematically, it would be necessary to have frost proof rooms, or cellars in the barns, into which to put the potatoes when dug. And one of the various root cutters would not be a bad thing to use to guard against choking the animals.

A writer in Young's Annal of Agriculture as long ago as 1789, tried some experiments on this subject in England. The result was as follows:—One hundred bushels of potatoes, gathered and fed out to cattle and sheep during the winter, were worth as much as an acre of turnips where the cattle could run upon them and feed themselves. Now it is not a very difficult job to raise three hundred bushels of potatoe on an acre, which will be equal to three acres of their turnips, so that the difference we think, in favor of the potatoe, is more than enough to counterbalance the extra expense, which is incurred by their culture and housing, over and above what is required to furnish turnips in the field.— We depend too much upon dry fodder in Maine, and this is one reason why the prices of our cattle vary so much. The natural fluctuation of the market is enough, but in addition to that, we make it much more so by depending so entirely on the hay crop, or what is the same thing, on the weather. We should multiply the sources of feed as much as we can. Among the substances used for food, are roots and among the roots, after going through the whole range of them, we are convinced that potatoes are preferable, and next them carrots. The chief trouble at present is, that very few of the barns in the country are calculated for the preservation of these roots; and it is too much labor to put them into the house cellar, and then lift them out in small parcels two or three times per day, and 'lug' them off to the barn. It would not be very expensive to construct a frost-proof cellar, or room, near the crib where they are to be used, and even apparatus for cooking them, which would increase their nutritive qualities.

Me. Farmer.

NEW FOOD FOR SHEEP.

Whilst I was at Geneva, in the autumn of 1837, I observed every one collecting carefully the fruit of the horse-chestnut, and upon inquiry I learned, that the butchers and holders of grazing-stock bought it readily at a certain price per bushels. I inquired of my butcher, who himself kept a very extensive grazing farm, and he told me it was given to those sheep in particularity that were fattening. The horse-chestnuts were well crushed, something in the way, I understood, that apples are previous to cider being made. They are crushed or cut in machines kept solely in Switzerland for that purpose; then about two pounds weight is given to each sheep morning and evening. Sheep eat it greedily; it must be portioned out for them, as too much would disagree with them, it being of a very heating nature. The butcher told me that it gave an excellent rich flavor to the meat. The Geneva mutton is noted for being as highly flavored as any in England or Wales.—*F. D. Elyse.*

Pulverizing the Soil.—Of all agricultural reformers, the once celebrated Jethro Tull, the first to suggest and invent improvement in farming machinery, and author of the drill system of husbandry, deserves, in my judgment to stand at the head of the list. True, he carried his theory in favor of extreme pulverization to the extravagant length of maintaining that it might be made even to supersede manure; still, his leading principle of perfect pulverization is too much overlooked in common practice. No farmer need expect a good return whose land, in horse or hand-hoe crops, is not kept clean and infinitely pulverized. This is the reason why nothing is more destructive, or, at least for that year, than plowing wet land. It bakes and becomes alike impervious as to moisture and the roots of the plants. There is no sign of mismanagement which should be more highly condemned and stigmatized, than that of stirring land when too wet. Frost alone can only restore it to a healthy condition. But, for breaking down and pulverizing clods of heavy stiff land, turned up by the plow in the ordinary way there is no instrument to be compared to that cheapest of all contrivances, the drag log.

Agri. Paper.

White Maple Sugar.—We have two samples of maple sugar, of last year's make, which is much the neatest we have ever seen. That made by our friend Samuel H. Stevens of Evansburgh is as white as much of the loaf sugar we meet with, now-a-days, and the other made by D. M. Walker, Esq., of Swanton, is nearly as white. It tastes very little, if any, of the sap, and we don't see why it will not answer very well for loaf sugar. We are told that there is no secret in making it so white—all that is necessary is to keep everything about the sap tubs and kettles clean, and boil the syrup off carefully.

St. Albans Messenger.

Cleanliness in making butter.—It would seem almost unnecessary to allude to cleanliness as peculiarly necessary to the manufacture of good butter. But I do so to bring under your notice the fact, that cream is remarkable for the rapidity with which it absorbs and becomes tainted by odors. It is very necessary that the air of the dairy should be pure—that it should be often renewed, and that it should open in no direction from which bad odors can come.—*Johanson's Lectures.*

BANK NOTE & EXCHANGE TABLE.

Corrected for the Boston Post by WILLIS & CO., Exchange and Money Brokers, No. 25 State street, April 1, 1844.

MAINE.
Agricultural Bank, Bangor (in hands of receivers) \$90,997 ds.
Bangor Commercial Bank, Bangor charter surrendered 3 a
Bank of Bangor, charter expired worthless
Citizen's Bank, Bangor, new plate worthless
Cais Bank worthless
Cais Bank, Portland charter surrendered, worthless
Bangor Commercial Bank, Bangor worthless
Frankfort Bank, Frankfort do
George Bank, Bangor do
Georgia Lumber Co., Portland do
Hallowell and Augusta do
Hallowell and Augusta do
Kennebunk Bank do
Lafayette Bank, Bangor charter surrendered 3 a
Merrimac Bank, Bangor do
Metropolitan Bank, Bangor do
Oxford Bank, Fitchburg do
Passachusetts Bank do
People's Bank, charter surrendered do
Stillwater Canal, at Orono do
in hands of receivers do
Portland Bank, charter surrendered to Trustees, Saco St. Croix, Calais charter surrendered do
Washington county, Calais redeemed by Trustees do
Waterford Bank, (closed) do
Westbrook Bank, Westbrook do
Woodstock Bank, Woodstock do
Woolwich Bank, Woolwich do
Hartland, Dec. 10, 1843.

From Mr. Wood, Esp. Merchant in South Woodstock.

The fact is, in my opinion, that "Joxus' Drops for Humors" do cure the disease for which it is prepared, and nothing else can do it, and I have known it to do it in every case in which I have tried it.

The greatest medicine before the public for cures of the skin, in the use of the two bottles of them, I have found most remarkable relief from the Salt Rheumatism and other diseases, which are not mentioned in the book, and all other remedies entirely ineffectual.

This medicine is no humbug—no moonshine, but a perfect and astonishing elixir. Remove all the parts of the body, and you have a perfect elixir.

The health of the human frame demands entirely upon the state of the blood. If the pervading fluid which pervades every tissue, even membrane, fibre, filament, gland, or other organ primary or subsidiary, if the body is healthy, the blood is healthy, and vice versa.

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